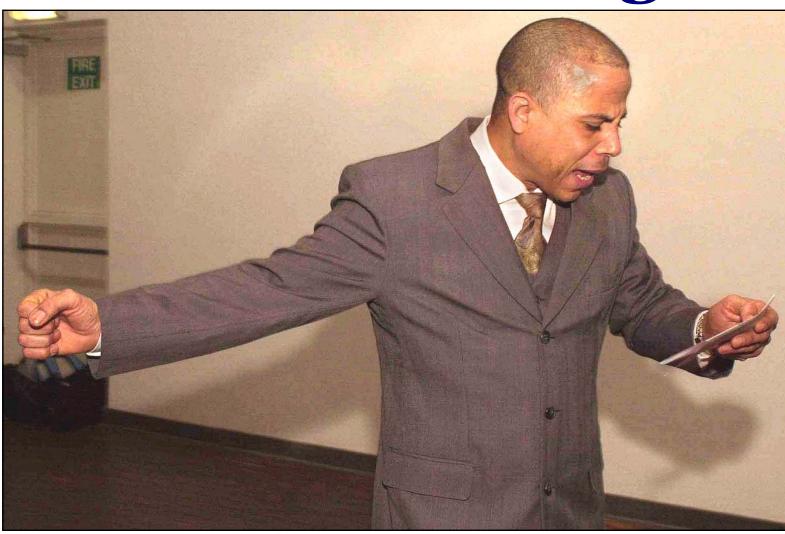
# zenelux

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# Freedom rides again



Carlos Young rehearses his part of James Peck, a Freedom Rider, for a presentation given Jan. 20 in honor of the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The Freedom Riders were an inter-racial group that rode buses in 1961 to challenge the U.S. to New Orleans.

federal government to enforce laws against discrimination in interstate transportation. They were received with violence at many locations during their journey from Washington, D.C.

# Reading recalls segregation in America

Story and photos by Rick Haverinen

tin Luther King's birthday, SHAPE community members used home-grown talent.

"We went around for a week looking for volunteers and saying we were trying to figure out how we were going to do this," said Sgt. 1st Class Denise Guidry. "We also had video tapes on (civil rights) documentaries but we didn't really want that. We wanted to bring something live to the table."



Master Sgt. Marshall Miller played the reluctant bus driver.

When the time came around to make up a of this year's King observance developed into record. Guidry broadcast an email message for

Riders, an integrated group of bus rid-various units on the SHAPE compound. ers who challenged the U.S. federal government's lax enforcement of nonsegregation laws in 1961. Members of the group were severely beaten and in one incident, a bus was burned while they were aboard as they traveled from Washington, D.C. to New Orleans. White passengers sat at the rear of the bus, blacks at the front, and at bus stops they would use facilities designated for the opposite color and eat together at segregated lunch counters.

Guidry is Equal Opportunity Advisor for U.S. Army SHAPE and has a core of volunteers she works with, including Sgt. 1st Class Karen Williams who took a book home and over a single weekend

The live and breathing historical presentation came in with a script adapted from the historical program for this year's observance of Dr. Mar- an original rehearsed reading about the Freedom actors, and soon assembled a baker's dozen from

> "We did a rough draft, and then we read it once," Guidry said. "There was too much narration so we scaled it down to the things that im-

> > Continued to Page 4

### Reading is believing.

The Meteor again has a printer and will now publish twice per month. Check page 7 for new deadline and publication dates.

### **Quick Read**

### In General

### W-2 forms are online

Military members with a MyPay personal identification number will only receive an electronic W-2 unless they choose to still receive a hard copy of the form. All USAREUR civilian employees will automatically receive hardcopy W-2 forms from DFAS in the mail. In addition to receiving a hardcopy W-2, civilian employees with a MyPay PIN can also obtain a copy of their W-2 at the MyPay website. Retired military service members and annuitants will continue to receive their tax statements or 1099 statements by mail. The Office of Personnel Management will report civilian retirees' taxable retired pay on a Form 1099. Military retirees will have the capability to receive an electronic 1099R through MyPay. For more information regarding your W-2 contact your local finance and accounting office.

### **Belgium**

### Children's activities held

SHAPE Arts and Crafts Center offers a number of classes for children during the mid-term break, Feb. 23-27. Classes include silver jewelry making, candle making, bisque painting, macramé and egg painting. To sign up, call DSN 423-4680. Chièvres Library has Story Time Feb. 27, 4:30 - 5 p.m. at the Community Activity Center on Chièvres Air Base. Info: DSN 361-5767

Mardi Gras lunch scheduled MWR hosts a Louisiana lunch buffet Feb. 24, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Prime Time Lounge on Caserne Daumerie. Info and RSVP: DSN 361-5904.

### Entertainment set

Brussels American School International Dinner and Show is March 6, 6-9:30 p.m., in the BAS multi-purpose room, sponsored by the PTSO. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for children. Info: 0479 980 355.

### **Netherlands and Germany**

### See future drivers

Cub Scout Pack 100 holds a Pinewood Derby March 27, 10 a.m., at Schinnen Sports Center.

### Celebrate cultural month

Manor Santos Lodge No. 127 holds a banquet and dance Feb. 28. Tickets are 25 Euros. For information about location and time call at Schinnen, Conrad Payne, 046 443-7450; at AFNorth, Eric Henderson, 062 842-6437; or at Geilenkirchen, Don Ballesteros, 49 175 160-4381.

### **Newcomers welcomed**

The next newcomers' orientation is Feb. 27, 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Schinnen Sports Center.

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# General explains safety campaign

### Feb. 1, 2004 Bell Sends #12-04

1. Summer will be here before we know it. As we look forward to the end of winter and the long, warm days that will follow, we also must ensure that we are prepared for the hazards associated with the season. This year, we face the additional challenge of reintegrating Soldiers as units return home after long deployments.

- 2. The 2004 Summer Safety Campaign will begin 1 May. The Summer Safety Campaign memorandum (available on the USAREUR Homepage) provides more information about the campaign and tasks commanders to develop summer safety programs for their units. This campaign applies to USAREUR Soldiers in European garrisons and at deployed locations in the USEUCOM AOR (for example, KFOR and SFOR). It also applies to all currently deployed USAREUR OEF/OIF units as they prepare for and execute redeployment, reintegration, reconstitution, and retraining activities.
- 3. The success of this campaign depends on all of us. Leaders at every level down to first-line noncommissioned officer supervisors must lead this campaign and ensure that their unit summer safety program is fully developed and implemented. These programs must provide a comprehensive, proactive means of identifying risks and implementing risk-mitigating measures in unit

training and operations. Leaders will ensure that every Soldier is aware of and complies with the unit summer safety program.

4. During this campaign, we must be especially sensitive to the needs of units and Soldiers who have returned home from extended deployments. History shows that the number of serious accidents increases as units redeploy after major military opera-

tions. Many returning Soldiers are unfamiliar with European traffic rules and USAREUR-unique requirements. Leaders must ensure that every Soldier receives prescribed training, understands safety risks, has appropriate vehicular licenses, and is familiar with the requirements in the Summer Safety Campaign.



Gen. B. B. Bell

5. The Summer Safety Campaign will concentrate on the following areas:

Field and Garrison Training. Commanders of units involved in training and mission-support operations must conduct risk assessments, set safety conditions, and conduct operations and training to standard. AE Pamphlet 385-15 must be used to ensure that safety is integrated into all our activi-

ties. This applies to both ground and aviation operations.

**Heat Injuries.** The danger of heat injuries is a significant threat to our Soldiers and to mission accomplishment, both in garrison and at deployed locations. Training on recognizing and preventing heat injures is essential.

**Water Activities.** Every year in the European military community, someone drowns

or is severely injured in an accident while taking part in water sports. Alcohol use, horseplay, inexperience, lack of supervision, and swimming in unauthorized areas are the most common factors in these incidents. More than half of all fatalities in or on the water are alcohol-related. Safety awareness and swimming only in authorized areas are the keys to preventing accidents. Each community must distribute information on authorized swimming areas.

### Alcohol and Substance

**Abuse.** Leaders must be aggressive in preventing alcohol and substance abuse following long deployments and during the summer season.

Vehicles Safety. The dangers of drinking and driving and the hazards associated with operating vehicles, especially motorcycles, in heavy, fast-moving traffic must be emphasized. New arrivals and individuals re-

turning from deployment are particularly at risk.

Recreation Activities. Personnel must be made aware of the hazards associated with activities such as bicycling, camping, hiking, skating, and summer outings; and the precautions they should take to avoid injury.

Wellness. Deployments and redeployments can be stressful for Soldiers and their families. Leaders must be able to recognize the warning signs of suicide and domestic violence and know where to get help when needed.

6. The time to start preparing for summer is now. We can make a difference. We must do everything we can to prevent injury and loss of life and to ensure our Soldiers, civilians, and family members are protected as we execute with excellence Any Mission, Anywhere.

1313Bell

B. B. BELL General, USA Commanding

# Tax services now available in the Netherlands

### By Capt. Noah Fontanez

It's that time of year again and your Client Services team at the Netherlands Law Center is gearing up to help those in the Benelux area with tax advice and preparation. We will even E-file your 2003 tax returns at no cost to you. The team is made up of Unit Tax Advisors (UTAs), military lawyers of the Army's Judge Advocate General's Corps, NCO's and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) trained preparers.

Although your tax assistance team can provide assistance with a number of tax problems, we are limited by AR 27-3, Chapter 3-6i. Tax Assistance on private business activities is outside the scope of the legal assistance tax program. Private business activities involve various non-government type enterprises that bring you income. This may include different types of Multi-Level Marketing businesses, but does not include income on a single rental home.

Before you book an appointment, here are a few important tax law changes for 2003 that you should know about: Exemption amount increased. The deduction for each exemption is now \$3,050 from \$3,000.

Standard deduction amount increased.

Married filing Joint & Qualifying Widow(er) \$9,500 Head of Household \$7,000 Single \$4,750 Married Filing Separately \$4,750

Child Tax Credit increased. The tax credit has been increased to \$1,000 for 2003. An early refund of the 2003 Child Tax Credit was issued to eligible taxpayers who claimed the child tax credit on their 2002 tax return and had a qualifying child that was born after 1986. Taxpayers that received the "early refund" Advance Child Tax Credit payment must include the amount received when calculating the 2003 Child Tax Credit.

Earned Income (EIC) Limits. For 2003, the investment, earned income and adjusted gross income for the EIC are: Investment income is \$2,600 or less.

Total earned income must be at least \$1 but less than:

\* \$33,692(\$34,692 if married filing jointly) and more than one qualifying child.

\* \$29,666(\$30,666 if married filing jointly) and one qualifying child.

\* \$11,230(\$12,230 if married filing jointly) and no qualifying child.

Adjusted gross income less than:

\* \$33,692(\$34,692 if married filing jointly) and more than one qualifying child.

- \* \$29,666(\$30,666 if married filing jointly) and one qualifying child.
- \* \$11,230(\$12,230 if married filing jointly) and no qualifying child.

Additionally, here are some ways to help you get the best possible work done on your return:

- \* Read your tax booklet or the more comprehensive IRS publication "Your Federal Income Tax" (publication #17). Find it online at http://www.irs.gov/formspubs/lists/0,,id=97819,00.html.
- \* Gather and bring to the preparer any information or documents that might apply to your taxes including your last year's return. Remember, too much information is better that too little.
- \* Make a list of any tax-related questions that occur to you and ask the preparer about them.
- \* After your return is prepared, check it to make sure all the information is correct.

Now it's up to you, call the Netherlands Law Center and book your appointment at DSN 364-6204 or Commercial 31 (0) 45 563 6204.

Fontanez is Chief of Client Services at Netherlands Law Center.

## AFRC expands program to include redeployed service members

With USAREUR Soldiers and civilians soon redeploying from Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom assignments, AFRC Europe has expanded the "Operation R&R" program to include redeployed OIF/OEF service members on block leave status. Previously, this opportunity was only open to OIF/OEF service members on 14-day R&R leave. Effective immediately, "Operation R&R: Block Leave" will offer the base R&R package, plus one additional overnight.

The AFRC Europe "Operation R&R" pro-

gram base package provides two overnights at the General Von Steuben or General Patton Hotels, two dinners and two breakfasts for only \$90 for a single traveler or \$120 for double occupancy. As part of the special block leave package, Soldiers and civilians may obtain a third overnight stay. Singles are an additional \$45 and doubles are \$60. Youths (ages 13-17) are \$9 per day and children under 12 stay and dine at the hotel free. Additional nights may be added on-site following arrival, based on availability.

While staying at the resort, Soldiers, ci-

vilians and their families may take advantage of the many exciting tours and recreational activities offered by AFRC Europe for only \$15 per day.

The AFRC Resort in Europe, set in the beautiful Bavarian Alps, is the perfect place to experience a wonderful vacation with opportunities to tour Southern Germany, take part in exciting recreation and relax in the historic and beautiful facilities.

The "Operation R&R: Block Leave" program allows block leave participants to spend quality time relaxing with family," said

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Richard LeBrun, General Manager, AFRC Resorts in Europe. "We want to help service members have a unique experience and plenty of rest in order to be ready to continue their important missions."

In order to sign up for accommodations and programs service members may visit www.afrceurope.com or call the Vacation Planning Center at DSN 440-2575 or CIV 08821-72981. Guests should mention that they are part of the OIF/OEF block leave program when booking reservations.

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# 254th BSB Triborder news

# Spelling bee abuzz with success

By Sandy Aubrey

BRUNNSUM, the Netherlands –

The air was charged with excitement Jan. 22 in the AFNorth International School cafeteria as 26 students competed in the annual spelling bee.

Students in fourth, fifth and sixth grades gathered before their peers, teachers and parents to see who knew the difference between their, there, and they're or between envelope and envelop.

Although the event was officially sponsored by the school, preparation for the bee had to be on students' free time. Students had to volunteer to participate and dedicate time after school to prepare. The children started studying in November. The bee was sponsored by Scripps Howard Co. and organized by Pat Kindle, sixth grade teacher and Bonnie Higbee, gifted program specialist.

"Their commitment was amazing, we just gave them this monstrous book of words to study on their own

and off they went," Kindle said.

All the studying culminated on a cold January morning. With nerves running high, once the competition started the event progressed quickly eliminating 13 students in the first round. After several rounds of words ranging in difficulty, it came down to a contest between fourth grader, Samantha Taylor and homeschooled Harrison Rieping. Taylor won with the correct spelling of "phobic," with Rieping, Morgaine Scott, Hayley MacDonald and Johnny Leonard coming in first, second, third and fourth runners-up.

The children did very well considering that in several instances they didn't know the meaning of a word and the definition they were given often seemed way above their grade level.

Taylor is now eligible to travel to Heidelberg in March to participate in the regional contest.



PHOTO: Sandy Aubrey

Spelling bee champ Samantha Taylor gets a hug from her mom, Sook, after spelling "phobic."

### Flags are passed

The Sports Center at the 254th Base Support Bn. was the venue for the Jan. 22 retirement ceremony of Master Sgt. Lavora Edwards and Staff Sgt. James McCall. McCall, in background, and Edwards receive encased flags from Staff Sgt. Rob E. Lowe. Edwards, the NCOIC of the battalion S2/3 shop and her husband will retire to Tampa, Fla. where she plans to take arts and crafts classes and enjoy civilian life. McCall's wife is Dutch and they plan to stay in the area. With over 42 years of service between them, the NCO's were honored and praised for their commitment and dedication to their country. They both received Meritorious Service Medals, Certificates of Retirement and Appreciation and retirement pins. Additionally, Edwards was presented the Order of Saint Martin Award. After the ceremony, guests were invited to a reception to congratulate the retirees.



### 254th BSB Calendar

### Volunteers for conference sought

The 254th BSB Installation Volunteer Coordinator is looking for volunteers for the annual Army Family Action Plan Conference March 11-12. Facilitators, recorders, transcribers, observers, issue support personnel and delegates are needed. Training will be provided. Info: Teri Ryan, 046 443-7451.

Collecting for kids in Kabul - The American Spouses Club collects toys and clothes for kids in Kabul. Bring donations to the 'Upscale Resale' Thrift Shop at Schinnen, Thursdays-Saturdays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

### Kick your way to health

TaeBo/aerobics classes are offered Mondays through Thursdays at the Schinnen Sports Center, 6-7 p.m. Sign up at the Fitness Center, call 31 46-443-7561 for more information.

### Check out the social scene

Join friends and colleagues at the Memories Lane social hour Fridays at 4 p.m.

# Deployment night has an international audience

By Marilyn Carver School Liaison Officer

**BRUNSSUM, the Netherlands** - The AFNorth International School Community Family Forum featured a night of deployment information and activities Jan. 18.

Tri-border representatives from the Netherlands Law Center, 254th Base Support Bn. Ministry Team, Army Community Services, Child and Youth Services and the Air Force Family Support Center provided useful information to an international audience comprised of Canadian, British and Polish personnel family members as well as American Army, Air Force and Navy family members

Deployment information ranged from preparing for legal and spiritual needs before deployment, to resources

and tips for coping and financial assistance during and after deployment. Racquel Cajudo, Army Community Services coordinator, said most family members were in the pre-deployment stage so that was where she focused her presentation.

"Most people worry about saying goodbye but they should be preparing to take control of their separation," Cajudo said. "The more prepared prior to deployment the better families can cope with separation."

While adults listened to the various speakers, younger family members were placed in age-appropriate groups to color pictures for their deploying parents, or to discuss the stress of living through the separation of a father or mother. Many teens shared their personal experiences with their deployed parent and discussed how they coped with

school and grades. Erin Rapach, family advocacy education specialist, led teens in a discussion concerning productive ways to recognize and deal with stress.

Organizers seemed pleased with the turnout and are planning other meetings to deal specifically with support issues during deployment and planning for re-integration

Although most of the information provided referred to the U.S. Department of Defense resources, international family members seemed happy to find materials and web sites available for their use also.

"I'm very pleased because I think we had a balanced representation of the community," Cajudo said. "Responses from speakers and attendees were enthusiastic with a very good exchange of questions and answers."

Rick's Meteor 19 February 2004 FINAL AA.p653 2/17/2004, 2:57 PM

# Reading recalls segregated past Continued from Page 1 Felt as a little kid," Guidry said. "Everybody had very strong feelings about whether you're opposed to civil rights or you were for civil rights. So I think it was easy for me to say, 'Okay, this is what happened." For of rehearsing and performing things of rehearing and performing things.

Sgt. Kristy Livingston, left, and Staff Sgt. Kety Clark played members of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

song, 'Going Down the Main Line,' because the Freedom Riders actually continued."

The cast polished the script and their interpretations over just one week's time before the performance. Guidry remembered the 1960s civil rights struggle from watching TV as a child.

"Our everyday ritual was when my dad would come home from work and we'd watch the news,' Guidry said. "I would sit down and he would explain to me what was happening on the TV because it was on the news every day and that was our time. He needed to explain those things to me, what was going on and why people were being treated like that, because I was from California and I didn't get that impact. We had black and white folks (in our neighborhood) and I didn't know that things were like they were, and so my parents made sure that I understood.'

Guidry directed the reading with memories of what she



The part of AlabamaGovernor John Patterson went to Staff Sgt. Charley Adams.



Sqt. 1st Class Gregory Rowland read the part of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

had seen and heard on TV 40 years earlier, giving extra attention to Staff Sgt. Charley Adams, who read the part of John Patterson, Alabama's governor in 1961.

"I remember seeing things on TV as these things actually happened so the impact for me was that when we would rehearse, and I didn't see what I thought I should see, it was easy for me to share how I

"I didn't know there was that many Caucasian folk involved," said Adams. "I knew there were ones and twos but I didn't know there was more than a handful involved."

"Just like Staff Sgt.Adams said before, I didn't know there were a lot of Caucasians that had participated," said Staff Sgt. Dawn Reyes, 'and me being the narrator, it was very touching to know that these things went on the way that they

"What I really didn't realize was how passionate people were about it," said Sgt. John Coakley, who played Freedom Rider Frederick Leonard. "We knew that was something a lot of people were involved

in and they wanted to get done as far as equal rights, but doing the reading and hearing the emotion and what they told the writer made it a lot clearer how passionate they felt about the whole movement."

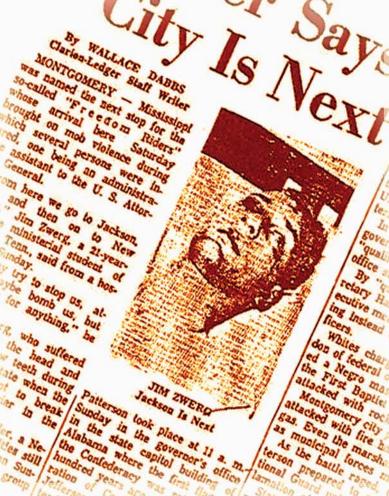
"My main thing was after reading the book on the Freedom Riders, was that Martin Luther King Jr. didn't orchestrate the Freedom Riders like I thought he did. It was orchestrated by James Farmer," said Sgt. 1st Class Karen Williams, who adapted the book into the play, "and as I went on to read the book, I found out that King was merely a supporter of the Freedom Riders and he wanted the Freedom Riders to get all of the credit for what they were trying to do. And even though he was just a supporter of this journey that they were going on, he was still such a main part of it. There were different elements of the Freedom Riders and there were different people that were respected by the Freedom Riders, but they still somehow al-

ways wound back to Martin Luther King for his advice or his help, and I'm speaking in terms of President Kennedy He wanted Martin to step in and tell the Freedom Riders, 'Hey, you could get shot for what you're doing.'

The bus occupants were severely beaten by a mob that met their arrival in Montgomery, Ala. May 20, 1961. The character of Frederick



Angela Troutman read the part of the wife of Asst. Attorney General Burke Marshall.



Freedom Rider Jim Zwerg was interviewed from his hospital bed, May 21, 1961. Photo and text courtesy of the Clarion-Ledger, Jackson, Miss.

Leonard says of the incident, "I think what saved me... was that Jim Zwerg walked off the bus in front of us, and it was like they were possessed. They couldn't believe there was a white man that would help us."

The mob beat Zwerg so viciously that the Clarion-Ledger in Jackson, Miss. reported he "suffered deep cuts about the head and face and lost a few teeth during the battle.'

King came to Montgomery the next day and held a rally at the First Baptist Church, but a mob of several thousand surrounded the building and violently rioted with National Guard troops and federal marshals.

With the beatings, bombings, arrests, fires and murders that were part of the civil rights landscape of the time, it is obvious that the activists had both strong wills and exceptional courage.

"I personally thought (the courage) was phenomenal," Coakley said. "With the character that I played, there's the

area where he says that they could have gotten off the back of the bus, but they went and got off the front of the bus and they took what was coming to them. It was a situation where they were in circumstances that they couldn't hide from, that they couldn't run away from it, so they took it head-on. They went ahead and took what was coming to them and hopefully everything came out for the better."



Master Sgt. Darryl Williams played James Farmer, the organizer of the Freedom Riders.

"And to add to that," Guidry said, "was the fact that it wasn't just black people that were getting beat up. It was

Continued on page 10

eiore the Sunday night services Continued to Page 7

# SHAPE's senior NCO recommends action to honor civil rights hero

By Rick Haverinen

The top enlisted man of Allied Command Operations believes Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is better honored through an activist's life than by quiet remembrance.

U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Maj. Alford McMichael was key-

note speaker at a ceremony to honor King Jan. 20 on Daumerie Caserne in Chièvres. The program also included a dramatic reading about the Freedom Riders in 1961 and a presentation of awards to SHAPE Elementary School students who created posters about King.

McMichael compared King's career path to that of a freeway, in that the equality movement's pace was broader and faster during his lifetime.

"Before we can truly give the respect to the legacy of Dr. King, it is important that we... look back at the very roadmap that it took to build the freeway that King took his journey on throughout his life," McMichael

McMichael identified three major events in U.S. history that roughed out the path for King. These were the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, and the start of the Civil Rights Movement.

"It actually starts back as far back for me as 1776 in the American revolutionary war where a nation fought for its independence against Great Britain," McMichael said, "and the ending of that war brought on a burst of a nation that we now know as the United States of America, a nation that is to be governed by democracy."

McMichael noted that with the founding of the United States, the language, "All men are created equal," has directed how the country has developed.

U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Maj. Alford McMichael, Senior Noncommissioned Officer Allied Command Operations, told his audience Jan. 20 that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. left a legacy that is best respected through action rather than passive remembrance.

"And for me it goes back to the American civil war, a war that was fought between the very states of a nation," McMichael said. "It was fought primarily because of the institution of slavery of human beings descended from Africans. When this war ended, it brought the abolish-

ment and the end of slavery."

"And the third movement that I felt was important to shaping the roadmap or the freeway that Dr. King would later travel was the civil rights movement," McMichael said. "It was nearly a century ago as well. But the civil rights movement was based on non-violence. It was based on the opportunity to get America to wake up and let its conscience be tested so that we could know that racial prejudice and segregation were all in the wrong..."

McMichael observed that leadership has always come forward when America's development needed it.

McMichael noted that King didn't want to be remembered for honors and academic degrees, but only as a man who tried to improve life for others.

"The Dr. King that I know was a drum major," McMichael said. "Dr. King would want to be remembered as a drum major for peace. Dr. King would want to be remembered as a drum major for righteousness. Dr. King in my heart, is remembered as a drum major for justice. So today we remember Dr. King, but we would do his legacy a great disservice if we only remembered him but we didn't act on his legacy. So today we say, 'Dr. King, happy birthday Dr. King. Happy birthday, for today we celebrate your birthday because today we act on your

# Chaplain remembers King in Geilenkirchen

By Sandy Aubrey

GEILENKIRCHEN, Germany – The humor and jokes in no way detracted from the powerful message delivered by Col. Nathaniel Crawford, Jr. Jan. 16 at a luncheon to celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Speaking to an audience of over 100, Crawford developed the theme "One nation...one dream, now the dream is in our hands." He urged his audience to follow in the footsteps of Martin Luther King and used the civil rights leader as an example of an ordinary man doing extraordinary things guided by his faith in God and his commitment to do the right thing.

Crawford said King was a man who knew himself and what he wanted to achieve. It is Crawford's belief that when people know who they are and what they want, nobody and nothing can stop them from accomplishing their goals. He believes that the negative image Americans have around the world is because of our hypocrisy, arrogance and selfrighteous attitude and said it was time to practice what we preach – liberty and justice for all.

But the strong words were delivered with

humor and Crawford skillfully wove King's life and achievements into today's reality. He recognized that the civil rights movement had come a long way since the time of King, but allowed that there was still more to do.

"I know we can't be Martin Luther King, but we can be ourselves and make a difference," Crawford said. "Being your best 'self' for others is the key to life."

He particularly exhorted the military to take the lead in bringing about needed social changes and reminded everyone that King represented what this world should be for everyone, regardless of race, color or creed.

Crawford is the command chaplain at the Air Force Materiel Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base but he didn't preach or sermonize, rather he used humor and a dynamic style to grab the audiences' attention and deliver his message.

"I thought he was an outstanding and enlightening speaker. His down-to-earth approach reached me like nothing else could have and I liked that he spoke primarily about Martin Luther King and his life and what we can do to make things better," said Conrad Payne, BSB financial readiness program manager.



PHOTO: Sandy Aubrey

Everyone seemed to enjoy Col. Nathaniel Crawford's speech for the Martin Luther King observance luncheon Jan. 16. Crawford greets Ivan Berry after the event.

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### SHAPE and Chièvres Community Calendar

Blood drive – The Belgian Red Cross will organize four blood drives this year. Dates are March 22, June 14, Sept. 20, and Dec. 6 in Hangar #4 Chièvres Air Base (commercial area). Time is 9-11 a.m. Info: Daniel Libre, DSN 361-5683.

**February is Pet Dental Health Month** - All dentals are half price this month. Patients must be seen prior to scheduling dental appoint-

ment. Info: DSN 361-5435/5352

Flea Market held - March 6, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Community Activity Center in Hangar #4 on Chièvres Air Base. Info: 361-5506 or 068 27 5506.

SHAPE Trips and Tours, Building 307, SHAPE, open Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Thermae 2000 trip March 6, Euro 50. Enjoy a relaxing day in Valkenburg. Sign up today and spoil yourself. Other trips in-

clude Cologne Carnival Feb. 23; and Disneyland Paris Feb. 26. Info or to sign up stop by or call DSN 423-3884 or 065 443884.

**80th ASG Basketball Championship** SHAPE Gym, Feb. 21, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Info: Steve Richardson, 423-

**BOSS Mardi Gras Celebration**, Feb. 21, IC Club on SHAPE, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Cost is \$3 or Euro 3. Sold in

advance only. Contact your BOSS rep.; BOSS Ski Trip to Garmisch, Germany March 5-8, Single Soldiers \$285 Others \$290 Double Occupancy only. Price includes transportation and accommodation. Call DSN 423-3834 or DSN 366-6272

SHAPE Main Gym is looking for softball coaches for the men's and women's community teams. Please contact the SHAPE Main Gym by February 20, at DSN 423-3905.

The 80th ASG Code of Ethics Training is March 11, 1-3 p.m., at Bldg. 30, Daumerie Caserne. Anyone that is required to file an OGE 450, Confidential Financial Disclosure Report, needs to attend and everyone else is welcome. This is also a mandatory requirement for all military personnel. Info: Capt. Robert Arroyo, DSN 361-5288.

### BRUSSELS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

ACS (02 717-9783) Metro Madness class Feb. 20, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Pre-natal classes start Feb. 23, 6 p.m.; Infant/Child CPR and First Aid, Feb. 24, 7-9 p.m. at NSA Old Sanctuary; free computer classes at the Computer Lab - MS Word March 8, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and MS PowerPoint from 1:30-5:30 p.m., MS Access March 9, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and MS Excel, 1:30-5:30 p.m.; Army Family Action Plan Forum, March 9-10, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Active Parenting of Teens Workshop March 9-11, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Chapel area; Toddler playgroup meets every Tuesday, 10 a.m. - noon in the CYS multi-purpose room.

**The ACS Lending Closet** now has microwave ovens to loan to inbound or outbound personnel.

**Three Star Lounge** (02 717-9822 or 9819) Movie Night with free popcorn every Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

NSA Chapel (02 717-9708) Christian Protes-

tant Worship service with the celebration of communion every Sunday, 9-9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages follows the service. Multi-Craft Center (02 717-9629) NSA Auto Craft Shop offers "Automotive Classes for Dummies" every Thursday, 7-9 p.m. by appointment only. Cost is \$25 and will teach general maintenance and dynamics of your vehicle; a six-week motorcycle class, tailored specifically to your needs, is now available at the NSA Auto Craft Shop for \$45. Classes are held every Wednesday, 7-9 p.m., by appointment only. The NSA Multi-Craft Center offers cross-stitching classes Wednesday afternoons, Saturday mornings or afternoons and Sunday afternoons. Basic knitting classes begin Feb. 20 and will be offered on Fridays at 10 a.m. Jewelry making classes start Feb. 25 and will be taught Wednesdays at 6 p.m. Call the Multi-Craft center for more info or to sign up for one of

these classes.

**Outdoor Recreation** (02 717-9775 or 0474 683 544) Blue Delft Workshop Feb. 28, 7 a.m.-9 p.m. Call for price and details.

**NSA Food Court** is open for breakfast Monday-Friday at 7 a.m. and closes at 4 p.m. The Food Court is open 11 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

Family Readiness Group (02/717-9732) "Battle of the Babes" basketball competition is Feb. 28, 11 a.m., at the Brussels American School gym, \$1.00 entrance fee, food and refreshments will be available at the Snack Shack.

Brussels Tri-Mission Community AFAP Forum is March 9-10, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., in the NSA Building 2 Conference Room and Chapel area. Delegate training will be provided one week prior to the forum. Lunch will be offered on both March 9 and 10. At the conclusion of the event, the groups will present the top

three issues, with possible solutions, to the Community Coordinator, NSA Commander, and staff. Info: Isabelle Gillet at ACS, 02 717-9783 or Isabelle.Gillet@benelux.army.mil

Children's Services Committee - Calling all parents of children with special needs. Make your voice heard and join the team. Call Heather Reekie, NSAACS, at 02/717-9783 or 9693, or Terri Perez, EDIS, at 065/44-5931 for details about our next CSC meeting.

Conflict – Reflections... and Resolution: March 23, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., in the NSA Chapel area. Conflict is part of life. We can actually learn and grow from successful conflict resolution. Sources and effects of conflict will be explored in this class as well as strategies to deal with conflict situations. Call ACS at 02 717-9783 to sign up.

For more information about events happening in the Brussels community, visit www.brussels. army.mil.

### 254th BSB Local Calendar

Jobs available - Netherlands Law Center is recruiting for tax season. There are two positions open for four and six months. Info: 45 563-6204. Andrews Federal Credit Union at Schinnen is accepting applications for branch manager and full-time member service representative/teller. Info: 46 443-7507.

Financial Peace comes to the Triborder - AFNorth Chapel begins a 13-class course called Financial Peace University Feb. 26, 6 p.m., on the third floor of the chapel. Childcare is free. There is a \$50 check registration fee that will be refunded once a person completes 12 of the 13 classes. Info: 49 2451 99-3503.

Volunteers for conference sought The 254th BSB Installation Volunteer Coordinator is looking for helpers for the annual Army Family Action Plan Conference March 11-12. Facilitators, recorders, transcribers, observers, issue support personnel and delegates are needed. Training will be provided. Info: Teri Ryan, 046 443-7451.

PAC meets at CDC - The Parent Advisory Council meets Feb. 28, 12:30–1:30 p.m., Child Development Center, Brunssum.

Kick your way to health - TaeBo/ aerobics classes are offered Mondays through Thursdays, 6-7 p.m., at Schinnen Sports Center. Sign up at the Fitness Center, call 31 46 443-7561 for more information.

Check out the social scene - Join friends and colleagues at the Memories Lane social hour Fridays at 4 p.m.

ASEP class offered in March - Personal Financial Management for NCOs I is offered March 8-12, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Call 364-6060 for more information or stop by the Treebeek Education Center.

**BOSS meets** - Better Opportunity for Single Service (BOSS) members meets Feb. 26, 2 p.m., Treebeek Education Center.

News from the Bowling Center - Cosmic bowling Fridays, 6 p.m.; No

Tap tournaments Saturdays, 6 p.m., men 9 pins, women 8 pins, \$15 entry

Support group meets - The New Parent Support Program Breastfeeding Support Group meets Feb. 25, 10 a.m.-noon, ACS Conference Room, Building 39, Schinnen. Newcomers welcomed - The next newcomers' orientation and tour is Feb. 27, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Schinnen Sports Center.

**Toddlers gather** - The Schinnen playgroup for toddlers meets every Thursday, 9:30-11:30 a.m., at Schinnen Sports Center.

Free child screening offered - Free developmental screening service for babies through three years of age. All American-sponsored families are eligible. Call Mary Jo Rooney at 45 563-6126.

Club 13 offers live entertainment -Enjoy the warm guitar and soothing voice of Hank Slaughter rendering tunes by the Rolling Stones, Jimmy Buffett, Melissa Etheridge, Bon Jovi and Pink Floyd. Every Friday, 5:30 p.m., at Club 13 at AFNorth.

Youth Center plans activities - Unless otherwise indicated, activities are held in the Youth Center at AFNorth. X-Box games for middle school and teens Feb. 18, 3:30-6 p.m.; Dominos tournament for middle school and teens Feb. 19, 3:30-6 p.m.; Bingo, table games, movies and popcorn all day for middle school and teens Feb. 23, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Trip to Snow World for middle school and teens Feb. 24, 1-4 p.m., Euro 25 per person; Trip to Tropical Pool in Belgium for middle school and teens Feb. 25, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Euro 15 per person; Ice skating and swimming at Glannerbrook for middle school and teens Feb. 26, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Euro 15 per person; Go-karting in Belgium for middle school and teens Feb. 27, 1 - 5 p.m., Euro 30 per person; Keystone meeting for middle school and teens Feb. 20,

3:30-6 p.m.; Torch Club for grades 6-8 meets Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4-5 p.m., Youth Center, Brunssum; Smart Moves for girls in grades 6-8 meets Wednesdays, 4-5 p.m., Youth Services.

Adult classes set - Unless otherwise indicated, classes are held in ACS Building 39 at Schinnen, 046-443-7500: Family Advocacy Program hosts "Stress Awareness in Children" Feb. 24, 5 - 6 p.m.; Family Advocacy Program "Anger Management Part II" Feb. 19, 10 a.m.-noon; Family Advocacy Program "Stress Management Workshop Part II" Feb. 20, 10 a.m.noon; The Employment Readiness Program has two workshops every Tuesday: "Finding Employment," 10 a.m.-noon, and "Hands on Resumix", 2-4 p.m.

Get away to Poland for shopping - SATO Travel has an express trip to Poland March 12-14. Price is Euro 115. For more information call 360-7450.

### Geilenkirchen Calendar

**Spring Bazaar** - The 15th Annual Spring Breezes Bazaar is Feb. 27-29 in hangar 4 on NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen. The Bazaar is open to all US and NATO ID card holders and their guests. Bazaar hours are: Feb. 27, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Feb. 28, 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.; and Feb. 29, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Explore Sittard**—Daytrip Feb. 26, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Visit this wonderful quaint town in the Netherlands. Discover the weekly market and enjoy the ambiance of Europe. Bring Euro for lunch.

**Personal Financial Management Program** (PFMP) - Four-Year Investment, Feb. 25, 9-

11:30 a.m. for enlisted; 1-3 p.m. for officers. For all enlisted and officers that have been on active duty four years or less and all E4s and below. This is a mandatory briefing and members must attend even if they attended at a previous base. Topics that will be covered include debt management, legal issues,

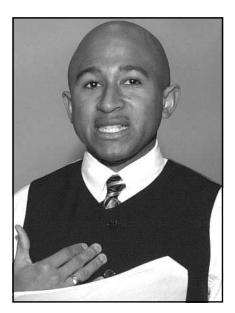
housing, credit reports, and insurance.

Family Life Skills Cooking for singles, Feb. 27, noon-1:30 p.m. This class is a fun way to meet other singles and learn some great new recipes. You will learn to cook these great new and old recipes in smaller portions.

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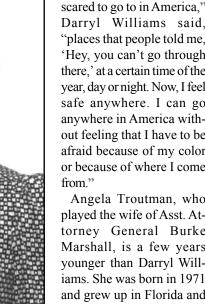
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actually a person of white color that chose to stand and get off the bus first and take the brunt of the punishment so that maybe they would be easier on the others. And I



Sgt. John Coakley portrayed Freedom Rider Frederick Leonard.

Sgt. 1st Class Karen Williams adapted the reading from civil rights literature.



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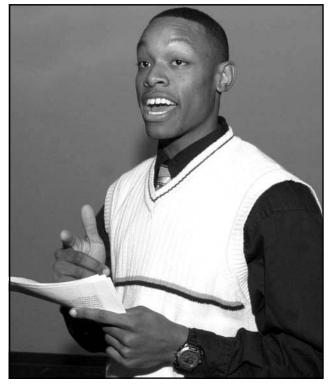
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cast

Darryl Williams said, "places that people told me, 'Hey, you can't go through there,' at a certain time of the year, day or night. Now, I feel safe anywhere. I can go anywhere in America without feeling that I have to be afraid because of my color or because of where I come

Angela Troutman, who played the wife of Asst. Attorney General Burke Marshall, is a few years younger than Darryl Williams. She was born in 1971 and grew up in Florida and Georgia. Even in this southern environment, she doesn't remember being discriminated against because of race or color.

"At least to me, it wasn't



Spec. Shawn Grace played Freedom Rider John Lewis.

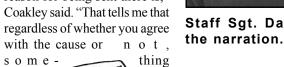
think Sgt. Coakley brought that statement alive when he said that, and I thought that was important for (the audience) to know."

"Jim Zwerg saved him," Adams said. "The only thing that saved him and two or three of his friends was that. Zwerg got off the bus first."

"As far as fighting for a cause, we put on a uniform and we took an oath, to defend the country and the Constitution and the people in it, regardless of where we're sent or what the reason for being sent there is," Coakley said. "That tells me that regardless of whether you agree with the cause or n o t,

good is come out The

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living who applied so much intimidation in the 1960s must realize the effects of that effort practically solved in just one generation of Americans. only member who mentioned a memory of overt any sign of dis-Staff Sgt. Dawn Reyes read crimination as a child is Mas-

> ter Sgt. Darryl Williams, who grew up in Tallahassee, Fla., and who portrayed Freedom Riders organizer James Farmer in the reading.

"There were some places I used to be



Sgt. 1st Class Denise Guidry, U.S. Army SHAPE Equal Opportunity Advisor, directed the reading.

noticeable at the time," Troutman said. "I never knew any kind of prejudice."



Pvt. 1st Class Samuel Nine appeared as Jim Zwerg, who was beaten by a mob.

### **Benelux Meteor Deadline and Publication Dates**

Print Date Copy due (noon) Print Date Copy due (noon) Print Date Copy due (noon) Copy due (noon) Print Date Feb 23 Mar 4 Mar 29 Apr 8 Apr 26 May 6 May 24 Jun 3 Mar 8 Mar 18 Apr 12 Apr 22 May 10 May 20 **Jun 17** Jun 7

# **About Us**



The Benelux Meteor is the authorized unofficial Army newspaper published under AR 360-1 for 80th Area Support Group personnel. Published 25 times a year under agreement with Stars and Stripes, Germany, editorial content is provided by the 80th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office and the 254th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office. Opinions expressed are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the 80th Area Support Group. The Meteor is inserted every other Tuesday in Stars and Stripes' Benelux edition. Circulation is 3,000. Our mailing address is Benelux Meteor, HQ 80th ASG, Unit 21419, Public Affairs Office, APO AE 09708. Telephone: DSN 361-5419; fax: DSN 361-5106; civilian telephone prefix: 068-27-5419. The country code for Belgium is 0032. Émail address: meteor@benelux.army.mil

- We invite and encourage letters to the editor, but they must be signed. We will consider withholding the name of the author upon request., but we will not print any anonymous letters.
- We reserve the right to edit letters to make them fit the allotted space, to remove libelous material and to correct grammar. Letters should contribute to the informational interest of the issue in question.
- Articles and photographs may be submitted for consideration but publication depends upon the judgment of the editor.
- Community-related event announcements must use civilian dates and times. Spell out acronyms initially and include a point of contact, telephone number and e-mail address.
- All submissions are subject to editing.
- Advertising
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 Any gambling or lottery requiring payment for chance cannot be advertised as stated in 18 U.S.C. 1302.

Copy and photographs are due by noon every other Friday.

| Commanders                            |                              |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| COL Timothy J. Quinn                  | 80th Area Support Group      |
| LTC Deborah P. Broughton              | 254th Base Support Battalion |
| LTC Jon M. Davis Jr                   | NATO Support Activity        |
| Public Affairs Officers and personnel |                              |
| Marie-Lise Baneton                    | 80th Area Support Group      |
| Susan Jackson                         | 254th Base Support Battalion |
| Rick Haverinen                        | Edito                        |
| F. Neil Neeley                        | Write                        |
| Sandy Aubrey                          | Write                        |
|                                       |                              |

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# Acting ambassador discusses diplomatic careers with Brussels students

BRUSSELS, Belgium – Brenda Schoonover, Chargé have never regretted my decision to join the Peace Corps

d'Affaires and acting ambassador to Belgium, recently discussed with Brussels American high school students the merits of public service.

"I am advocating that you strive to lead in the betterment of mankind and the promotion of world peace," the ambassador said. "The more we promote these ideals, the better our chances of living in harmony and peace with other nations."

Schoonover, who began her government career as one of the first 200 volunteers to join the Peace Corps, said she has never looked back.

"For me the Peace Corps came along at just the right time when I was young, filled with a sense of adventure, enthusiasm and idealism, as I still believe I am. I

and the subsequent paths it led me to take," she told the American and Partnership for Peace students.

"We must remember that being citizens of a rich nation carries a special responsibility to the rest of the world. If we are to continue to be a world leader, we must work for the development of all nations, both politically and economically," Schoonover said.

The ambassador said working in an international setting or multi-national

organization has its own rewards despite the threat of terrorism.

"As much as I want to promote international public service, I must also point out the risks involved. But in my opinion, the rewards far outweigh the risks."

"Do something that will make a difference to your country and in the long run to yourselves, your family and the world we live in," she said quoting former vice president Hubert H. Humphey.

Schoonover's talk, sponsored by the Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID) class at Brussels American School, was designed to encourage students to attend college and think about joining one of the varied careers federal service offers, according to teacher Judy Peabody.

After the ambassador's talk, she met with senior international students, AVID students and tutors for a question and answer session.



Schoonover

### **National Prayer** Breakfast held at **SHAPE** venue

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Byron Simmons

The U.S. National Prayer Breakfast was held Feb. 11 at the SHAPE Officers Club with Chaplain (Col.) Vincent Inghilterra, the EUCOM Command Chaplain, as the speaker.

The National Prayer Breakfast program opened with prelude music by Sgt. 1st Class Joan Murray of the SHAPE International Band. Breakfast, prepared by the SHAPE Officers Club, was then served as Murray continued to entertain. Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Brett Travis, offered an invocation calling our attention to the rich tradition of the National Prayer Breakfast which dates back over 50 years. He reminded us of the importance of prayer by reflecting on the significance President George W. Bush gave to it in his remarks at the National Prayer Breakfast held in Washington D.C. Chaplain Travis' invocation was followed by a rousing rendition of "Mine Eyes have seen the Glory" by all those in atten-

The Prayer for the Nation was given by Col. David Karns, scripture reading was provided by Sgt. 1st Class Sukda Srithai and Staff Sgt. Matthew Merrill and special music was provided by Brittany Simmons accompanied by

Inghilterra focused his message on the need for each of us to live our lives according the "Pillars of Patriotism" espoused by George Washington during his farewell speech after 45 years of political experience and public life. Quoting George Washington, John Adams, James Madison, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton and Abraham Lincoln, Inghilterra drew our attention to the critical role religion and morality had, and continues to have, in shaping the greatness of our nation. He reminded us that even though we might be tempted to give up on the virtues of forgiveness, kindness, honesty and goodness we should maintain our commitment to these virtues became they are indeed the very fiber of what makes our nation great.

The Prayer Breakfast concluded with a benediction by Chaplain (Col.) Gary Gross who prayed asking God's Blessing on those present and for those serving our nation in harm's way.

### **Face-off**

The Division III European Wrestling Tournament was held at Brussels American School Feb. 7. The teams that participated were London Central, Ansbach, Brussels, Hohenfels, Menwith Hill, Bamberg, Baumholder, Giessen, Alconbury, and Iceland. Lt. Gen. Tim Kinnan, the **United States Military** Representative to NATO, hosted the awards ceremony presenting medals and certificates to the top four placers in each weight class. Kevin Nicholson, left, of Brussels goes head to head with Adam Worrell of Bamberg.

### SHAPE and Chièvres Community Calendar

ery second Saturday of the month, 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. Call DSN 361-5185 for an appointment. The IMA-Europe Powerlifting Championship

takes place in April at Chièvres Community Activity Center. Weightlifters from across Europe are expected to compete. All interested parties can contact the SHAPE Main Gym at DSN 423-3923 or CIV 065 44-3923.

Air Force Annual Awards Banquet for the SHAPE/Chièvres area, is Feb. 21 at SHAPE Officers' Club. Cocktails start at 6:30 p.m. and dinner begins at 7 p.m. This year's theme is, "Celebrating Today's Airmen - Challenging Tomorrow's Leaders." The guest speaker is the Command Chief Master Sergeant Vickie Mauldin, Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC.) She was the Command Chief Master Sergeant for U.S. Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) prior to her current assignment. Ticket prices are based on rank: E1-E4. Euro 10; E5-E6, Euro 20; E7-03, Euro 25; 04 and above, Euro 30. Contact your unit first sergeant or TSgt Chamblee, DSN 423-4181.

The Chièvres Veterinary Clinic is open ev- ACS Coupon challenge - Enter to win great prizes when you use coupons at the Chièvres Commissary. The challenge ends March 31. Info: ACS, DSN 423-4824.

> **Exceptional Family Member Program - Pick** up your copy of the first edition of the EFMP Resource Guide.

> **SHAPE Entertainment Centre update** - An evening of music and poetry by black artists in celebration of African American History Month is Feb. 20, 7:30 p.m., at SHAPE Entertainment Centre: Adult Acting Class at the Entertainment Centre will be held every Thursday at noon. Playwriting Class is underway. Cost is Euro 20 per person for the session which will run until the end of March. Call Jacque if you want to sign up. You can join in any time during the session; Performances of The Glass Menagerie are March 4-6, 7:30 p.m., and March 7, 3 p.m. Tickets are now on sale; Performances of Seven Brides for Seven Brothers are March 19, 20, 24, 26, 27, 7:30 p.m.; March 21, 28, 3 p.m.; there is also a 2 p.m. matinee March 20. Tickets are available after

March 10. Box office is open Monday-Friday, 2-5:30 p.m.; Auditions for The Women, by Clare Booth Luce are April 22 and 23, time TBA; The rock band Wooden will be playing the SHAPE IC Club on April 8 and they are also scheduled to appear at the 80th ASG April 9. More details will follow. Admission is free. Info: 065 44 3312.

The SHAPE Language Centre is looking for certified English teachers. If you are interested in teaching English for the SHAPE Language Centre, please contact Mrs. Claudine Walter at DSN 423-3772 or 065 44 3772.

Central Texas College has new operating hours at both the SHAPE and NSA Brussels Education Centers. The new schedule is as follows: Monday and Tuesday, closed at SHAPE & NSA Brussels; Wednesday and Thursday, open at SHAPE, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday, closed at SHAPE, open at NSA Brussels, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. For more information please contact the Central Texas College Field Representative, Laura Gilliam, DSN 423.7447 or commercial 065 44 74 47.

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